

Table 4.12 Uranium Exploration and Development Drilling, 1949-1999

Year	Exploration ¹		Development ²		Total	
	Holes Drilled (thousands)	Footage Drilled (million feet)	Holes Drilled (thousands)	Footage Drilled (million feet)	Holes Drilled (thousands)	Footage Drilled (million feet)
1949	NA	0.36	NA	0.05	NA	0.41
1950	NA	0.57	NA	0.21	NA	0.78
1951	NA	1.08	NA	0.35	NA	1.43
1952	NA	1.36	NA	0.30	NA	1.66
1953	NA	3.65	NA	0.37	NA	4.02
1954	NA	4.06	NA	0.55	NA	4.61
1955	NA	5.27	NA	0.76	NA	6.03
1956	NA	7.29	NA	1.50	NA	8.79
1957	NA	7.35	NA	1.85	NA	9.20
1958	25.32	3.76	22.93	3.49	48.25	7.25
1959	16.25	2.37	19.59	3.28	35.84	5.65
1960	7.34	1.40	24.40	4.21	31.73	5.61
1961	8.26	1.32	19.31	3.19	27.57	4.51
1962	6.44	1.48	12.87	2.43	19.31	3.91
1963	8.47	0.88	13.53	1.98	22.01	2.86
1964	5.97	0.97	9.91	1.25	15.88	2.21
1965	6.23	1.16	7.33	0.95	13.56	2.11
1966	5.75	1.80	13.18	2.40	18.93	4.20
1967	12.79	5.44	16.95	5.33	29.74	10.76
1968	38.47	16.23	19.53	7.53	58.00	23.75
1969	47.85	20.47	28.01	9.39	75.86	29.86
1970	43.98	17.98	14.87	5.55	58.85	23.53
1971	28.42	11.40	10.44	4.05	38.86	15.45
1972	26.91	11.82	9.71	3.61	36.62	15.42
1973	22.56	10.83	11.70	5.59	34.26	16.42
1974	27.40	14.72	12.30	6.84	39.70	21.56
1975	34.29	15.69	21.60	9.73	55.89	25.42
1976	40.41	20.36	27.23	14.44	67.64	34.80
1977	62.60	27.96	30.86	17.62	93.45	45.58
1978	75.07	28.95	29.29	19.15	104.35	48.10
1979	60.46	28.07	30.19	13.01	90.65	41.08
1980	39.61	19.60	20.19	8.59	59.80	28.19
1981	17.75	10.87	8.67	3.35	26.42	14.22
1982	6.97	4.23	3.00	1.13	9.97	5.36
1983	4.29	2.09	3.01	1.08	7.30	3.17
1984	4.80	2.26	0.72	0.29	5.52	2.55
1985	2.88	1.42	0.77	0.34	3.65	1.76
1986	1.99	1.10	1.85	0.97	3.83	2.07
1987	1.82	1.11	1.99	0.86	3.81	1.97
1988	2.03	1.28	3.18	1.73	5.21	3.01
1989	2.09	1.43	1.75	0.80	3.84	2.23
1990	1.51	0.87	1.91	0.81	3.42	1.68
1991	1.62	0.97	1.57	0.87	3.20	1.84
1992	0.94	0.56	0.83	0.50	1.77	1.06
1993	0.36	0.22	1.67	0.89	2.02	1.11
1994	0.52	0.34	0.48	0.32	1.00	0.66
1995	0.58	0.40	1.73	0.95	2.31	1.35
1996	1.12	0.88	3.58	2.16	4.70	3.05
1997	1.94	1.33	5.86	3.56	7.79	4.88
1998	1.37	0.89	5.23	3.75	6.60	4.64
1999	0.27	0.18	2.91	2.33	3.18	2.50

¹ Includes surface drilling in search of new ore deposits or extensions of known deposits and drilling at the location of a discovery up to the time the company decides sufficient ore reserves are present to justify commercial exploitation.

² Includes all surface drilling on an ore deposit to determine more precisely size, grade, and configuration subsequent to the time that commercial exploitation is deemed feasible.

NA=Not available.

Note: Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Web Page: <http://www.eia.doe.gov/fuelnuclear.html>.

Sources: • 1949-1981—U.S. Department of Energy, Grand Junction Office, *Statistical Data of the Uranium Industry*, January 1, 1983, Report No. GJO-100 (1983), Table VIII-5. • 1982-1989—Energy Information Administration (EIA), *Uranium Industry Annual*, annual reports. • 1990 forward—EIA, *Uranium Industry Annual* 1999 (May 2000), Table 1.